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Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01
/098 W
----------122520 070429Z /17
R 070350Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0868
USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, JA, US
SUBJECT: JAPANESE FEDERATION OF IMPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS PROPOSALS
ON JAPANESE TARIFF REDUCTIONS

REFS: (A) TOKYO 11096; (B) TOKYO 12988

SUMMARY: THE JAPAN FEDERATION OF IMPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS HAS SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL TO THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO LOWER TARIFF RATES FOR 11 DIFFERENT IMPORTED PRODUCTS. THE FEDERATION HAS REQUESTED OFFICIAL EMBASSY SUPPORT FOR ITS PROPOSALS. THIS AGAIN RAISES QUESTION OF JAPANESE TARIFF REDUCTIONS IN ADVANCE OF CONCLUSION OF MTN WHICH WAS SUBJECT OF REFTELS A AND B. PROPOSALS ARE REFERRED TO WASHINGTON AND GENEVA FOR CONSIDERATION IN OVERALL CONTEXT OF MTN. END SUMMARY.

1. ON AUGUST 25, MR. REIJI IWASAKI, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF JAPAN COSMETICS IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION, VISITED EMBASSY TO
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EXPLAIN FORMAL REQUEST OF JAPAN FEDERATION OF IMPORTERS ASSOCIATIONS TO JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO LOWER TARIFF RATES FOR 11 DIFFERENT IMPORTED AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. (THE FEDERATION IS COMPOSED OF 19 MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS AND SEVEN TRADING COMPANIES.) THE FEDERATION HAS PRINTED ITS PROPOSALS, ALONG WITH SUPPORTING ARGUMENTS FOR EACH ITEM, AND

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PRESENTED THEM TO APPROPRIATE OFFICES IN MITI, MINISTRY
OF FINANCE, AND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.
BOOKLET IS IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND EMBASSY HAS BEEN
PROVIDED WITH ONE COPY.

2. PROPOSED TARIFF REDUCTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS: (1)
FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS, PRESENT TARIFF IS 5 TO 7.5 PERCENT;
PROPOSAL IS TO REDUCE TARIFF BY ONE-THIRD. (2) FOR
BANANAS, PRESENT TARIFF IS 40 TO 50 PERCENT (DEPENDING UPON
SEASON); PROPOSAL--REDUCE TO 30 PERCENT. (3) FOR GREEN TEA,
PRESENT TARIFF IS 20 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--REDUCE TO 10 PERCENT.
(4) FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, PRESENT TARIFF
IS 88 YEN PER LITER TO 590 YEN PER LITER; PROPOSAL--
REDUCE BY 30 PERCENT. (5) FOR COSMETICS AND SOAP, PRESENT
TARIFF IS 10.8 TO 12 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--ELIMINATE TARIFF
ENTIRELY. (6) FOR LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS,
PRESENT TARIFF IS 10 TO 35 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--REDUCE BY ONE-HALF.
(7) FOR PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, PRESENT TARIFF IS
10 TO 20 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--REDUCE BY ONE-THIRD. (8) FOR
ALUMINUM, PRESENT TARIFF IS 9 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--ELIMINATE
TARIFF ENTIRELY. (9) FOR MACHINERY AND MACHINERY
PARTS, PRESENT TARIFF IS 12 TO 25 PERCENT: PROPOSAL--REDUCE
TARIFF BY ONE-HALF. (10) FOR AUTOMOBILES, PRESENT
TARIFF IS 6.4 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--ELIMINATE TARIFF ENTIRELY.
(11) FOR WATCHES AND WATCH PARTS, PRESENT TARIFF IS
2 TO 10 PERCENT; PROPOSAL--REDUCE TARIFF TO 6 PERCENT.
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3. ALTHOUGH THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO FORMALLY
SUPPORT THESE PROPOSALS VIS-A-VIS THE JAPANESE GOVERN-
MENT, WE ARE WITHHOLDING ACTION PENDING INSTRUCTIONS.
PROPOSALS MAY, HOWEVER, BE OF VALUE IN OVERALL
CONTEXT OF MTN.

4. IMPORTERS FEDERATION PROPOSALS AND ITS APPROACH
TO EMBASSY AGAIN RAISE QUESTION OF JAPANESE TARIFF
REDUCTIONS IN ADVANCE OF CONCLUSION OF MTN WHICH
WAS THE SUBJECT OF REFTELS A AND B.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: IMPORTS, PROPOSALS (BID), TARIFF LIBERALIZATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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